

Subject: FW: ACTION ALERT: Mitchell Case rescheduled at Homelessness & Poverty Committee - 9/7 at 9 am

From: Ellen Riotto <ellen@southpark.la>

Date: 09/05/2018 05:19 PM

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CC: Wallis Locke <wallis@southpark.la>

Dear Board members,

City council members of the Homelessness & Poverty Committee will be convening a Special Meeting this Friday at 9am to discuss Mitchell vs City of LA.

The temporary injunction was passed in April 2016, and bans the City of Los Angeles from seizing property of homeless people without giving proper notice – it applies only to the downtown area. The City now has three options: settle the Mitchell case in accordance with the current injunction, enter into a citywide settlement or go to trial.

Their discussion will be in closed session, but they will be accepting public comment beforehand. If you are able, your attendance and participation in public comment would provide much needed support to show the committee that settling would be bad both for downtown stakeholders and homeless people. Please see below for more information, and let me know if you're able to attend on Friday morning.

Thank you,

Ellen

Ellen Riotto

Executive Director

South Park Business Improvement District

FW: ACTION ALERT: Mitchell Case rescheduled a...

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From: Central City Association [<jquintero@ccala.org>](mailto:jquintero@ccala.org)
Reply-To: Central City Association [<jquintero@ccala.org>](mailto:jquintero@ccala.org)
Date: Wednesday, September 5, 2018 at 4:29 PM
To: Ellen Riotto [<ellen@southpark.la>](mailto:ellen@southpark.la)
Subject: ACTION ALERT: Mitchell Case rescheduled at Homelessness & Poverty Committee - 9/7 at 9 am

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Mitchell vs. City of Los Angeles at
Homelessness & Poverty Committee

RESCHEDULED FOR:

Friday, September 7

9 a.m.

The Homelessness & Poverty Committee is scheduled to discuss Mitchell vs. City of Los Angeles on September 7 at 9 am.

City Attorney Mike Feuer will be providing the first official briefing of the case to this committee in closed session, and there will be opportunity for public comment before the discussion. Your voice is critical and we need your support. It is important that our elected officials hear our thoughts on this issue that will have serious implications for Downtown and the city. If you are able to provide public comment, please be on time.

Mitchell vs. City of Los Angeles could eliminate any limit on the amount of personal property that a person can have on the sidewalk. The current injunction issued in 2016 only applies to Downtown, specifically from Spring to Alameda and 3rd to 8th Streets, and this could be made permanent through a settlement agreement.

The City has the following options: settle the Mitchell case in accordance with the current injunction, enter into a citywide settlement or go to trial. We are asking the City to go to trial and not settle on terms that treat Downtown differently and would decrease the quality of life for the homeless population in Downtown.

Important points to convey to elected representatives:

- * Mitchell effectively eliminates the 60-gallon limit on personal goods only for Downtown (this limit is established in LA Municipal Code 56.11 - Storage of Personal Goods).
- * Eliminating the 60-gallon limit will result in further densification of the Downtown homeless population and make it more challenging to provide housing, services and facilities to meet the current need.
- * The rise in tents and personal goods on the sidewalks is a direct result of Mitchell. We are very concerned that this prevents people from seeking services or reconciling with family or significant others by making life on the sidewalk permanent.
- * This should not be the standard for our homeless neighbors. We can do better by providing housing. If the City were to settle Mitchell with the current terms, this standard could become permanent.
- * We are very concerned that permanently eliminating this standard in one neighborhood of Los Angeles is unconstitutional and would set the City up for litigation in other neighborhoods.
- * We also believe a Downtown settlement would continue the over-concentration of homeless individuals, services and housing in Downtown, and ultimately further decrease the quality of life for the current homeless population in Downtown that needs individualized treatment and care to live safely and reenter society.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, we encourage you to voice your opinion by contacting the Homelessness & Poverty Committee members by phone or with a letter. The members are Councilmembers Bonin, Harris-Dawson, Huizar, Price and Rodriguez. Please let us know if you need assistance.

City Hall, Council Chambers

Room 340

200 N. Spring St.

Los Angeles, CA 90012

If you would like to join us at the committee meeting or want more info, please contact Shawn Bratton at sbratton@ccala.org <<mailto:sbratton@ccala.org>> .

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